low sulphur HSD would also be supplied throughout the country by April, 1999.

(iii) CNG which is a clean burning and environment friendly fuel has been introduced in Delhi, Mumbai and Baroda. CNG is also available in Surat.

(iv) Studies conducted by the Indian Institute of Petroleum and IOC Ltd. (R&D) have shown that petrol blends containing 3% methanol or 5% ethanol can be used by petrol vehicles without modification of engine. Substitution of diesel upto 15-20% was also found to be feasible under dual fuel mode with slight modification of engine. But the use of alcohols on commercial scale could not be undertaken due to non-availability of ethanol on a sustained basis. The Ministry of Food, Department of Sugar has set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Food) to examine the possibility of mixing of ethanol produced by Sugar Manufacturing/Distillery units with petrol/diesel.

Declining trend in use of Railways for carrying freight

*50. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that Railways have gradually been losing out to the road transport sector over the years carrying only 40 percent of the total freight; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The Government is aware that the demand for freight transport has outpaced the growth of the Railways' capacity to carry, resulting in the overflow going to the road sector.

(b) To prevent further overflow. Railways need to generate substantial additional transport capacity, warranting higher mobilisation of resources than it is able to generate at present. Railway is encouraging private sector participation in generation of additional transport capacity, through introduction of BOLT, BOO and OYWS schemes. To capture the non-bulk traffic, it has entered the inter-modal business.

Transfer of share of profits to ONGC and OIL

*51. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to transfer some share of profits by prospective Private Oilfields *viz* Reliance Industries, Videocon Ltd. and the Essar Ltd. to ONGC and OIL and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether CAG has raised serious objection on Government's decision to transfer some share of profit to ONGC and OIL; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how much percentage of this profit will go to the ONGC and OIL and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No such decision has been taken by the Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Stress on Eco-friendly Aquaculture practices

*52. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Stress on eco-friendly aquaculture practices" which appeared in the 'News Time' dated the 6th June, 1997; and

(b) if so, the present position of prawn farming in view of Supreme Court's order?